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ABSTRACT

The Spanish Skills Placement Test (SSPT) is the product of a need for a Spanish literacy placement instrument for use with literacy, adult basic education, and pre-General Educational Development program students. The need for the test was expressed by a variety of Illinois literacy organizations and agencies, particularly those in Chicago. The test encompasses a range of competencies from basic letter formation to expository writing. Its construction features a focus on critical competencies in order of complexity, a concise and non-threatening presentation, uncomplicated administration procedures, and a survey of significant skills to facilitate meaningful student grouping. The SSPT was field tested by several Northern Illinois literacy providers and edited by educators participating in a special assessment workshop. The seven-page instrument includes a mathematics section. Administrator's instructions, a list of competencies, and a score sheet are included with the instrument. (LB)

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ED340263

Adult Education Service Center of Northern Illinois *

SPANISH SKILLS PLACEMENT TEST (SSPT)

1991

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SPANISH SKILLS PLACEMENT TEST

The Spanish Skills Placement Test (SSPT) is the product of a need for a Spanish literacy placement instrument for use with literacy, ABE, and pre GED students. This need was expressed by a variety of Illinois and more specifically, Chicago based literacy organizations and agencies. The scope of skills tested is broad and encompasses a range of competencies from basic letter formation to expository writing.

Some important features that guided the construction of this test are:

- a focus on critical competencies in order of complexity,
- a concise and non threatening presentation,
- uncomplicated administration procedures,
- a survey of significant skills to facilitate meaningful student grouping.

The SSPT was field tested by several Northern Illinois literacy providers. In a special assessment workshop offered by the Adult Learning Resource Center in January, 1991, twelve educators from nine Adult Education Programs edited the SSPT. They incorporated their ideas and those comments submitted by field testers to produce the present form of the SSPT.

Dissemination

The Adult Learning Resource Center welcomes the duplication and program use of the SSPT.

To obtain additional complete copies including: Administrators' instructions, Competencies, and Scoring Sheets, please use the following address given below. This test packet is available at $5.00 per copy.

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Peggy Dean
Educational Resource Specialist

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Adult Learning Resource Center

SPANISH SKILLS PLACEMENT TEST (SSPT)

ADMINISTRATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS

Introduction

This instrument is designed to demonstrate sufficient Spanish literacy and basic education competencies for the purpose of class/level placement in an Adult Basic Education Program.

Acknowledgements

The SSPT is a product of a program consultation provided by the Adult Education Service Center of Northern Illinois (AESCNI). It was revised and edited by a group of Northwest Illinois Spanish Literacy/ABE/GED providers. They are:

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Test Administration

- Present each of the 8 Competency FORMS of the SSPT to the students one at a time. This is to avoid overwhelming or intimidating the newer students.

- Students will need a pencil and a table or desk where they can work quietly.

- Read to the students only the instructions that appear at the top of each FORM including the example if one is offered. Answer questions concerning how the items are to be answered. Do not read any of the test material aloud.

- Give students the successive Competency FORM if they have completed 75% of the previous page correctly. If there is any doubt as to whether the student should go on to an additional FORM, try it. Explain that the more information the teacher has concerning their abilities, the more accurately they will be placed. (See appendix 1)

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COMPETENCY FORM #1 - Personal Information (Note underlined instructions)

Before beginning the test, explain to the students that this exercise will help show what materials and which level best suit them. Communicate that they will learn more quickly and easily if their needs and abilities are known. Assure them that even if they can write nothing, it will not affect their entrance in the program. Ask that they complete the page without help, if possible, and then return it to you.

Two important competencies are targeted on this FORM: a) letter-number formation, and b) high frequency word recognition. To insure that the student has every opportunity to display letter-number formation, prompting may be necessary.

If a student returns FORM #1 without any written responses, point to the line marked "Nombre" and ask that the student write his/her name. Continue on to "Dirección" in the same manner. In this way you will obtain some information about basic writing skills.

COMPETENCY FORM #2 - Math Skills

All students who are able to form numbers should be given an opportunity to work on this page. While literacy class placement should not be based on math competencies, math groupings will be necessary within each class.

CONTINUE TO PRESENT SUCCESSIVE FORMS, PROVIDED **75% OF EACH IS** ANSWERED CORRECTLY.

COMPETENCY FORM #3 - Number/Time

COMPETENCY FORM #4 - Question Word/Decoding

COMPETENCY FORM #5 - Address/Cultural Literacy

COMPETENCY FORM #6 - Cloze Type

COMPETENCY FORM #7 - Communicative Writing

Evaluation should be based on the following considerations:

1. 60% Basic communication that student will be absent for a period of three weeks.
   20% Reason(s) for absence.
   20% Grammar, punctuation and spelling factors.

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II. 60% Basic presentation of community and mention of aspects that are liked.
20% Differentiation of things liked.
20% Grammar, punctuation and spelling factors.

COMPETENCY FORM #8 - Persuasive Essay

Evaluation of Part II should be based on the following:

60% Opinion of Mr. X's punishment.
30% Reasons to support the opinion.
10% Grammar, punctuation and spelling factors.

Score Sheets (See appendix 2)

After administering all COMPETENCY FORMS that the student can complete with a minimum of 75% proficiency, fill out the score sheet and attach to the front of the test.

SPANISH SKILLS PLACEMENT TEST (SSPT)

SPANISH SKILLS PLACEMENT TEST (SSPT)-
COMPETENCY FORM 1

Complete la forma con letra de molde o de imprenta.

INFORMACION PERSONAL

Nombre: _____
Nombre Apellido

Dirección: _____
Número Calle Apartamento

_____
Ciudad Estado Código Postal

Fecha de nacimiento: _____

Teléfono: _____

Firma: _____

Fecha: _____

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SPANISH SKILLS PLACEMENT TEST (SSPT) COMPETENCY FORM 2

Escriba la respuesta correcta:

1) $\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ +\ 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$

2) $\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ +\ 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$

3) $\begin{array}{r} 12 \\ +\ 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$

4) $\begin{array}{r} 73 \\ +\ 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$

5) $\begin{array}{r} 34 \\ +\ 29 \\ \hline \end{array}$

6) $\begin{array}{r} 83 \\ +\ 78 \\ \hline \end{array}$

7) $\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ -\ 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$

8) $\begin{array}{r} 37 \\ -\ 16 \\ \hline \end{array}$

9) $\begin{array}{r} 83 \\ -\ 14 \\ \hline \end{array}$

10) $\begin{array}{r} 107 \\ -\ 38 \\ \hline \end{array}$

11) $\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times\ 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$

12) $\begin{array}{r} 63 \\ \times\ 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$

13) $\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3} =$

14) $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{4} =$

15) $\begin{array}{r} 4\ \frac{2}{3} \\ +\ 2\ \frac{3}{4} \\ \hline \end{array}$

16) $\begin{array}{r} 2.5 \\ \times\ 6.7 \\ \hline \end{array}$

17) $\$2.41 + \$3.93 + \$.87 =$

18) $7\overline{)50}$

19) $2.6\overline{)394}$

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SPANISH SKILLS PLACEMENT TEST (SSPT) COMPETENCY FORM 3

Escoja usted la respuesta correcta. Ponga un círculo alrededor de la letra correcta.

Ejemplo: a) son las cinco
b) son las seis
c) son las once y media

1.

a) son las tres y cuarto
b) son las doce y media
c) son las doce y cuarto

2.

a) son las nueve y media
b) son las seis y media
c) son las nueve menos cuarto

3.

a) es la una y diez
b) son las dos y una
c) es la una menos diez

4.

a) son las once menos diez
b) son las ocho menos once
c) son las once menos veinte

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SPANISH SKILLS PLACEMENT TEST (SSPT) COMPETENCY FORM 4

Conteste las preguntas acerca del letrero.

Ponga un círculo alrededor de la respuesta correcta.

RESTAURANTE VICTORIA			
Lunes a Jueves	9:00 am	a	9:00 pm
Viernes	9:00 am	a	10:30 pm
Sábado	12:00	a	9:00 pm

1. ¿A qué hora abre el restaurante los martes?

   a) 9:00
   b) 10:00
   c) 12:00

2. ¿A qué hora cierra el restaurante los miércoles?

   a) 9:00
   b) 10:30
   c) 10:00

3. ¿Cuántas horas está abierto el restaurante los sábados?

   a) 9
   b) 10
   c) 11

4. ¿Cuántos días cierra el restaurante a las 9:00?

   a) 2
   b) 4
   c) 5

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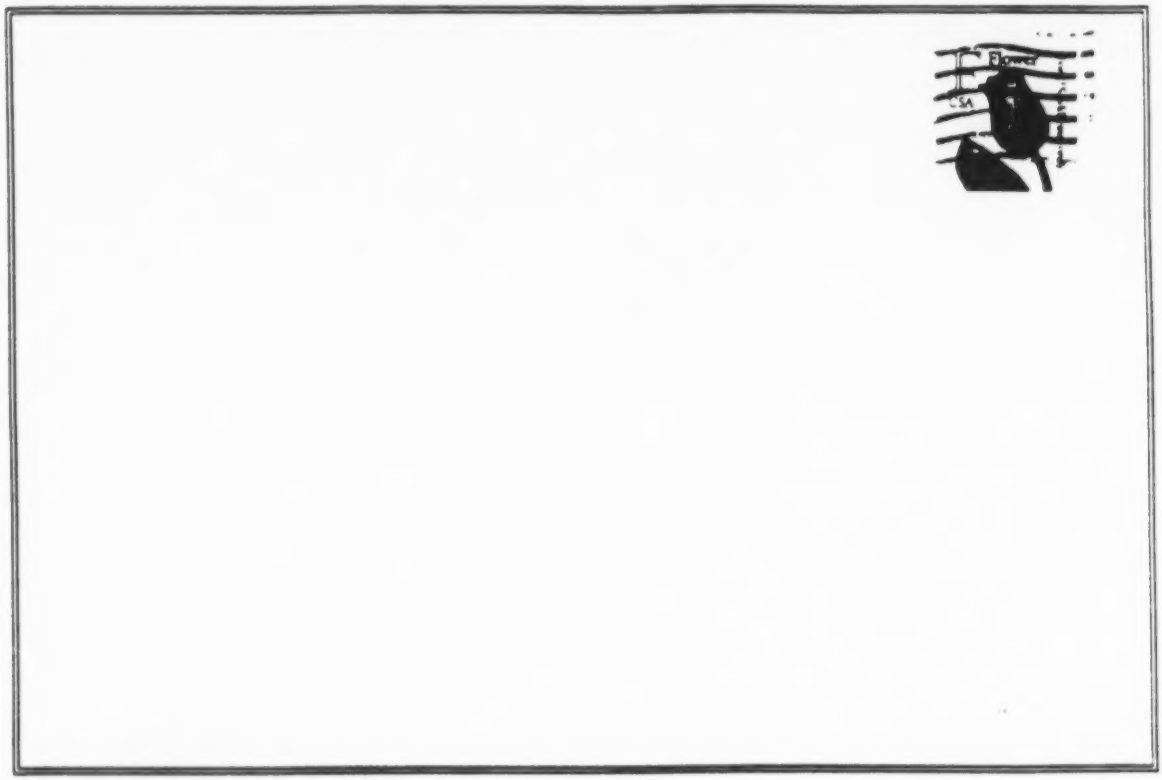
SPANISH SKILLS PLACEMENT TEST (SSPT) COMPETENCY FORM 5

Escriba la información en el sobre para mandarla al señor Fuentes.

El señor Fuentes vive en #3413 de la calle Villa, en Santa María, California, 92701.



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SPANISH SKILLS PLACEMENT TEST (SSPT) COMPETENCY FORM 6

Lea la carta y ponga un círculo alrededor de la palabra correcta.

EJEMPLO ➜

INFORMACION PARA PADRES

Inmunizaciones

El estado de Illinois tiene unas reglas para todos los alumnos. Los alumnos necesitan un examen (*físico, salido, cierto*) en ciertos años de estudio.

. . . . . .

También cada alumno tiene que estar (*listo, inmunizado, puesto*) 1.
en contra de algunas enfermedades.
No se puede empezar el año escolar
(*de, con, sin*) cumplir con las reglas. 2.
Estas reglas se aplican tanto a los
estudiantes de kindergarten (*como,*
sin, para) a los de secundaria. No 3.
se aceptan las fechas de las citas
en (*cumplir, lugar, trae*) de los 4.
examenes físicos. Las inmunizaciones
sirven para (*pasar, proteger, tener*) 5.
a todos.

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SPANISH SKILLS PLACEMENT TEST (SSPT) COMPETENCY FORM 7

Escoja un solo tópico y escriba segun las instrucciones.

I. Escriba una carta de 3 a 4 frases a su maestro(a) para decirle que usted no puede asistir a la clase por las próximas 3 semanas. Dé usted razones por eso.

II. Escriba un párrafo sobre la comunidad donde usted vive y lo que más le gusta de vivir allí. (3 a 5 frases)

SPANISH SKILLS PLACEMENT TEST (SSPT) COMPETENCY FORM 8

Instrucciones: Lea la historia con cuidado. Conteste las preguntas poniendo un círculo en la respuesta correcta.

"El Inocente Culpable"

Un hombre inocente, el señor X, fue condenado a muerte por los tribunales de nuestro sistema judicial por un crimen que no cometió. Mientras el día de ejecución se acercaba el inocente pensaba en la injusticia de su vida. El pobre ciudadano decidió no morir sin luchar. Al ya haber perdido la gran fe en la ley, un día antes de su ejecución pidió una pluma y un papel al guardia en autoridad. El guardia amistoso sintió confianza hacia el enjuiciado y desobedeciendo los reglamentos de la cárcel se los dió. El desesperado hombre por gran compulción agarró al guardia por la garganta y lo mató. Le quitó las llaves de la celda y se escapó, reclamando su libertad. No fue capturado.

Los años pasan y la policía persigue y captura al verdadero infractor delicuente. El malvado confieza todo ante los tribunales de la corte. Todo el mundo entiende la extraña paradoja de conducta y de la supuesta inocencia del señor. Pero ahora el señor X es culpable del asesinato del guardia y lo enjuician por el crimen.

Son ya veinte años los que han pasado después del asesinato del guardia y el señor X se encuentra viviendo como un ciudadano respetable y buen hombre de familia, que trabaja para el bien de sí y de su prójimo.

¿Qué sentencia merece?

I. Ponga un círculo a la letra correcta.

1. Al empezar la historia
   a) el señor X robó dinero
   b) el señor X fue condenado sin razón
   c) el señor X mató a un asesino

2. El señor X mató al guardia
   a) para vengarse de su familia
   b) para escapar de la cárcel
   c) porque no respetaba las leyes

3. El hombre escapa de la cárcel
   a) por robar las llaves
   b) por la ayuda de la familia
   c) por falta de guardias atentos

4. Todos saben que el señor X era inocente cuando
   a) se hace cuidadano respetable
   b) el malvado confiesa su crimen
   c) no se dejó morir sin luchar

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5. Después de escapar de la cárcel
   a) el hombre se hace guardia
   b) el hombre se hace ciudadano respetable
   c) regresa a su vida de crimenes

6. Los tribunales deben de
   a) llegar a un "acuerdo" fuera de la corte
   b) juzgar al individuo según el crimen y las circumstancias
   c) ejecutar a todos los asesinos

II. Escriba sus ideas de la historia del señor X. ¿Qué sentencia merece? ¿Qué decide usted? 1 a 5 frases.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1

SPANISH SKILLS PLACEMENT TESTS (SSPT) COMPETENCIES

Form #1

a) High frequency word recognition in a predictable context. Personal information.
b) Letter-number formation in a limited, familiar context.

Form #2

Math functions:

a)	Problems 1-3	Basic addition
b)	Problems 4-6	Addition carrying 10's marker
c)	Problems 7-8	Basic subtraction
d)	Problems 9-10	Subtraction with borrowing
e)	Problems 11-12	Multiplication, single factor
f)	Problems 13-14	Fraction addition
g)	Problem 15	Mixed number addition
h)	Problem 16	Decimal multiplication
i)	Problem 17	Horizontal addition - money
j)	Problem 18	Division
k)	Problem 19	Division with decimal

Form #3

a) Telling time: number recognition and fraction conventions.
b) Word identification in a limited context (numbers) with obvious meaning clues (clock faces).
c) Test situation response - multiple choice.

Form #4

a) Word decoding and comprehension in a defined context with emphasis on question words.
b) Inference of information from context (1, 2, 4)
c) Hour computation/calculation (3)

Form #5

a) Decoding information in an unfamiliar presentation with structured context.
b) Cultural literacy in presentation of letter address form (correct placement, order of information).
c) Letter-number formation of new information.

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SPANISH SKILLS PLACEMENT TESTS (SSPT)
COMPETENCIES (Cont.)

Form #6

a) Decoding of new information without contextual cues.
b) Elimination of nonsensical or non grammatical items and selection of appropriate item. "Cloze" test type.

Form #7

a) Communicative writing without sentence model or supplied vocabulary.
b) Grammar sufficient to insure comprehension.
c) Letter formation.

Form #8

a) Comprehension application noting specific sequence of events and making inferences.
b) Test situation response - multiple choice.
c) Communicative writing with opinion/conclusions.

Students' Name

Date

APPENDIX 2

SPANISH SKILLS PLACEMENT TEST (SSPT)
SCORE SHEET

COMPETENCY FORM

(Check Appropriately)

Test #	Attempted	Completed
1	___	___
2	___	___
3	___	___
4	___	___
5	___	___
6	___	___
7	___	___
8	___	___

General Comments: _____

_____

Specific Comments - #2 Math Competencies:

_____

_____

Specific Comments - #7 and #8 Writing Skills:

_____

_____

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